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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/714,610

11/18/2003

Jae-Ryong Park

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EXAMINER

ALEXANDER, REGINALD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1761

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

02/28/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/714,610

Applicant(s)

PARK ET AL.

Examiner

Reginald L. Alexander

Art Unit

1761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-19 and 22-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-19, 22, 23 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 7-19, 22, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hedenberg in view of Miller.

There is disclosed in Hedenberg a bread maker, comprising: a main body 2; an oven (interior heating chamber) accommodated in the main body; a baking tray 25 placed inside the oven and formed with a profile groove (not labeled, see figure 3), the tray comprising a stationary tray 28 and a movable tray 26; and a profile 40, 42 combined in the profile groove of the baking tray.

Miller discloses a peripheral groove 14 having a rectangular cross-section for supporting a cylindrical gasket 20, the groove including flanges (protrusions) 19 for retaining the gasket within the groove.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to provide the profile groove of Hedenberg with the flanges (protrusions) taught in Miller, in order to help retain the profile within the profile groove.

In regards to the use of plural profiles, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to provide plural profiles, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art.

In regards to the method of forming the protrusion on the groove, such is not germane to the issue of patentability of the device itself. Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight.

In regards to claim 13, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the shape of the Hedenberg groove with that taught by Miller, in order to provide an alternative shape for the groove.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10 January 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the method at which the protrusions are formed on the groove should be considered and that the prior art profile does not completely fit into the groove.

Applicant's citation from the MPEP involves the objection under 25 U.S.C. 112 2nd of the presence in an apparatus claim of process language. In this case there has been no objection under 112 2nd. The phrases "press-formed" and "press-forming" are considered to be a methods of forming the breakaway prevention protrusions, and not germane, in the apparatus claims, to the issue of patentability of the device itself. The structure in the claims is the protrusions and not how they are formed. Applicant states that the phrases used, press-formed and press-forming, indicate that the protrusions are an integral part of the structure. If this is the case than the prior art meets this limitation by showing the protrusions to be "integral" to the profile groove.

Applicant argues that because Miller discloses the gasket as protruding from part of the groove, it does not meet the limitation of fitting inside the profile groove. It is the

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Examiner's position that having a portion protrude from a groove does not preclude the gasket from fitting inside a groove. The gasket is still within the groove. The arrangement shown in the prior art meets the claimed limitations.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reginald L. Alexander whose telephone number is 571-272-1395. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 571-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

rla
20 February 2007


Reginald L. Alexander
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1761